Exploiting energy from non-conventional sources of energy

*14. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made so far in exploiting energy from non-conventional sources of energy like solar energy, wind power etc. and

(b) the funds allotted for such exploitation work during the Stventh Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) As a result of intensive R&D activities and demonstration programmes taken up in various areas of non-conventional energy sources, a number of technologies have been developed which have been found technically feasible for various applications including generation of electricity. Large scale Extension Programmes such as National Programme on Biogas Development, National Programme of Improved Chulha, Solar Thermal Extenoion Programmes have been launched throughout the country and are being expanded to the extent that financial resources permit. These are already providing and saving energy for lakhs of individualts and institutions throughout the country. Solar photovoltaic systems have been developed and are being increasingly deployed for electrifying remote villages and other small power needs. A programme for utilisation of wind energy for pumping and electricity generation is being implemented. Three wind farms for large scale electricity production have been set up and this capacity is being expanded. Projects relating to production, conversion and utilisation of biomass have reached the extension stage and biomass gasifiers for electric power production have also started to be commercialised. A number of energy self-sufficient villages have been set up and a programme initiated for a large number of villages, where energy for cooking, lighting and other needs of the entire village could be provided by locally available non-conventional sources of energy.

R & D activities have been intensified further to reduce the cost and improve efficiency of renewable energy systems.

(b) The outlay for exploiting energy from non-conventional sources is Rs. 412.35 crores during the Seventh Five Year Plan period.

Gap between availability and supply of power

*15. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a big gap between the availability of power and its supply in different parts of the country at present;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) whether NTPC propose to mobilise additional resources to establish 7860 MW power generation capacity during the next 3-4 years; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) During March, 1986, the States which had shortage of over 10 per cent were J & K, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Bihar and Orissa.

(c) and (d) During the next four years, NTPC has planned to commission about 6180 MW thermal capacity. In addition, it also proposes to set up Gas-based power projects of a capacity of 1630 MW during the Seventh Plan period. The NTPC are raising additional resources by floating Bonds